

## PRESS RELEASE

Charles Cooper Burgess Guilty Pleas Press Release

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[www.usdoj.gov/usao/txn](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/txn)DALLAS, TEXAS  
FEBRUARY 1, 2006**Dallas Businessman Pleads Guilty in Federal Court  
to Mail Fraud and Bank Fraud Charges*****Charles Cooper Burgess Pleads Guilty to Charges in Two Federal Indictments***

United States Attorney Richard B. Roper announced that Dallas businessman, Charles Cooper Burgess, pled guilty yesterday before the Honorable Paul Stickney, United States Magistrate Judge, to one count of mail fraud as charged in one indictment and one count of bank fraud as charged in another, unrelated, indictment. Earlier this year, federal grand juries in Dallas returned two separate indictments against Burgess. The first indictment, returned in June, charged Burgess with 10 counts of securities fraud, mail fraud and wire fraud related to a securities fraud scheme that he allegedly ran. The second indictment, returned in September, charged Burgess with conspiracy, mail fraud, wire fraud and bank fraud in relation to a mortgage fraud scheme he allegedly ran. Burgess, age 50, faces a maximum statutory sentence of 20 years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine on the mail fraud conviction and a maximum statutory sentence of 30 years imprisonment and a \$1 million fine on the bank fraud conviction. He is scheduled to be sentenced on both convictions on May 12, 2006.

In pleading guilty to one of the charges outlined in the first indictment, Burgess admitted that, in February 2004, as part of the scheme to defraud, he caused an investor to send a cashiers check for \$100,000, which he then diverted for his personal use. Burgess conducted business as a member of Tramir, L.L.C.; was Chief Executive Officer of Select Homes of Texas; and also did business as Better Homes of Dallas, L.L.C. Directly and through salesmen, Burgess solicited individuals to invest in Mallard Golf Development Project. As part of the scheme, Burgess lied to investors when he told them that he owned lots at The Mallard Point Golf Course in Lonoke, Arkansas. He then solicited money for these lots from investors, when, in fact, he had no rights in the property. Instead, Burgess used the money for purposes unrelated to the golf course project, namely his personal debts and payments to previous investors.

In pleading guilty to the bank fraud count as charged in the second indictment, Burgess

<http://intranet.fbinet.fbi/headlines/020106dallas.htm>

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